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CAPTAIN BRITAIN

10P



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

NO. 9

WEEK ENDING
DEC. 8, 1976

SHOCK
FOLLOWS SHOCK
WHEN CAPTAIN BRITAIN
BATTLES THE
DEMON-CREATURES
OF
DR. SYNNE!

SPECIAL BONUS:
A FULL-COLOUR PIN-UP
OF THE F.F.'S INCREDIBLE
ALLIES--THE UNCANNY
INHUMANS!

WHEN STUDENT-PHYSICIST BRIAN BRADDOCK RUBS HIS MYSTIC AMULET, HE TRANSFORMS INTO
BRITAIN'S SUPER-HEROIC CHAMPION OF JUSTICE...

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

CAPTAIN BRITAIN!

DEMON-FIRE!

ONLY MOMENTS AGO, WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A NORMAL LANDING AT A PRIVATE WEST-COUNTRY AIRFIELD HAD TURNED INTO TRAGEDY! AND NOW, CAPTAIN BRITAIN HAS SMASHED FREE OF THE BURNING WRECKAGE ONLY TO COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE MOST BIZARRE MENACE OF HIS BRIEF CAREER---

IT WAS **MONSTERS** THAT PULLED YOUR AIRCRAFT FROM THE SKY AND RAVAGED THE GIRL'S MIND!

MONSTERS SPAWNED BY--

--THE
DEMON DREAMS OF
DR. SYNNE!



CHRIS CLAREMONT * HERB TRIMPE & FRED KIDA
WRITER ARTISTS

* I. WATANABE, LETTERER * LARRY LIEBER
G. ROUSSOS, COLORIST EDITOR









NO! THAT WAS AN ACCIDENT--
I NEVER MEANT...

AND THEY
FORGAVE
ME!

FORGIVENESS
MEANS NOTHING
HERE, HUMAN!

THIS IS HADES,
HOME OF ETERNAL
DESPAIR AND UNEND-
ING DAMNATION!

AS YOU SHALL
NOW LEARN!



PAIN! CRUSHING ME, WHITING
OUT MY THOUGHTS... FIRES,
SULPHUROUS STENCH
CHOKING ME...

... BUT I
CAN'T-- I WON'T--
GIVE IN!

MUST ALL BE MY
IMAGINATION-- LIKE
THE MONSTERS BETSY
SAW... BUT IT SEEMS
SO REAL-- SO
HORRIBLY REAL!



I MUST
DENY IT!
IT'S AN
ILLUSION,
NOTHING
MORE. IT
HAS
TO BE...

...AND
ILLUSIONS
CAN BE
RESISTED!

YET WHAT
IF I'M NOT
DREAMING--
WHAT IF THIS
IS REAL? NO.
ALL MY
INSTINCTS
TELL ME
OTHERWISE--



...AND INSTINCTS ARE ALL
I'VE LEFT TO BELIEVE IN. IF
I DENY THEM AND SUCCEED
TO SYNNE'S ILLUSION,
THEN THIS NIGHTMARE
WILL BECOME MY
REALITY. I'LL REMAIN
HERE FOREVER!

I MUST FIGHT
THE ILLUSION!

FIGHT IT!
FIGHT IT!



... FIGHT
IT...

BRIAN, LAD, ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT? MICK-- GET ME
SOME BRANDY FROM THE
FLASK. QUICKLY, MAN!

YES, SIR!

J--JAMIE...?
IS IT REALLY...
YOU...?

YES, LITTLE
BROTHER, YOU'RE
SAFE NOW.



HEAD'S STILL POUNDING FROM
SYNNE'S NIGHTMARE--

--BUT... I'VE CHANGED
BACK TO BRIAN
BRADDOCK WITHOUT
WILLING IT. DID
JAMIE SEE THE
TRANSFORMATION?

NEVER A DULL
MOMENT WORKING
FOR THE
BRADDOCKS!

DID HE DISCOVER
MY SECRET? AND
EVEN WORSE...

...DID DR. SYNNE?

SOON, A TROUBLED YOUTH ARRIVES AT BRADDOCK MANOR, WHICH WAS BUILT A QUARTER-MILLENIUM AGO BY A VICTORIOUS GENERAL HOME FROM THE EUROPEAN WARS...

...ON LAND THAT'S BEEN PART OF THE BRADDOCK HERITAGE SINCE BEFORE THE ROMANS CAME, LAND STEEPED IN HISTORY.

LAND, A HOUSE, A FAMILY--
--THAT TODAY ARE ALL
UNDER SIEGE.

I'M GLAD YOU
RECOVERED--SO
QUICKLY--FROM
YOUR CAR
CRASH, JAMIE.

YOU KNOW ME, BROTHER,
I'M INVULNERABLE.

BUT THAT CRASH
WAS NO ACCIDENT--
IT WAS A DECLARATION
OF WAR BETWEEN
ME AND SYNNE.

WHO IS SYNNE,
JAMIE? WHAT
DOES HE WANT?

POWER! TOTAL
AND ABSOLUTE--
TO CONTROL BOTH
THE BODIES AND
MINDS OF MEN!

THE LEGENDARY DR. SYN--RUSSELL THORNDYKE'S
SCARECROW OF ROMNEY MARSH--WAS A FIGHTER
AGAINST TYRANNY AND INJUSTICE. OUR DR.
SYNNE IS DELIBERATELY PERVERTING THE
NAME AND THE MEMORY...

HE STARTED HIS
REIGN OF TERROR
A MONTH AGO AMONG
THE LOCAL FARMS
AND VILLAGES...

DIDN'T
ANYONE TRY
TO STOP HIM?

A NUMBER OF PEOPLE--INCLUDING
THE COUNTY'S CHIEF CONSTABLE--
BUT EVERY PERSON WHO'S CON-
FRONTED SYNNE HAS BEEN
TRANSFORMED INTO HIS
DEVOTED SLAVE.

EXCEPT CAPTAIN BRITAIN!
HE WAS SUPER-POWERFUL
ENOUGH TO OVERCOME
SYNNE'S HYPNOTIC SPELL!

BUT EVEN NOW, SYNNE STRIKES AGAIN!

THAT LIGHT--DAZZLING--
FLASHING AT ME THRU...
THE... WINDOW...

YOUR WILL IS MINE,
BETSY BRADDOCK..
NOW AND FOREVER--
TO DO WITH AS
I PLEASE!

AND, A MOMENT
LATER...

MUST HAVE
DOZED OFF.
I...

OH, NO!
NO!



MONSTERS!

THE SAME ONES THAT ATTACKED MY PLANE--
SOMEHOW--THEY'VE CAPTURED ME AND TAKEN
ME TO THEIR OWN HIDEOUS WORLD--!

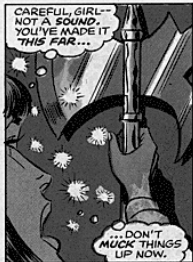
BUT WHAT'S EVEN MORE
HORRIBLE...I REMEMBER
THESE CREATURES...

...KILLING
JANE AND BRIAN!



NOW THEY'LL
SURELY SLAY
ME UNLESS...

...I CAN
STRIKE
FIRST!



CAREFUL, GIRL--
NOT A SOUND.
YOU'VE MADE IT
THIS FAR...

...DON'T
MUCK THINGS
UP NOW.



ANYWAY, BRIAN,
THAT'S THE
SITUATION.
BUT ENOUGH
OF MY
BABBLING...

WE'VE BEEN
NEGLECTING...

BETSY!



**DIE,
MONSTERS!**

YOU KILLED MY BROTHERS,
AND YOU'LL PAY FOR IT!
SO HELP ME!

BETSY'S WAVING THAT AXE
LIKE A MADWOMAN! ONLY
CAPTAIN BRITAIN WOULD HAVE
THE POWER TO RESTRAIN HER.

BUT IF I SWITCH
TO HIM NOW, I'LL
REVEAL MY
SECRET
IDENTITY!

AND YET IF
I DON'T, BETSY
MAY WELL KILL
US BOTH!

NEXT: DAGGER OF THE MIND!

FABULOUS, FANTASTIC AND
FRENZIED FLASHES OF THE
(NEAR) FUTURE!



ITEM! What's that, you say? You're anxious to learn the identity of the sinister super-villain who slipped so silently through the pages of last week's **CAPTAIN BRITAIN** colossal extravaganza? Well, wait no more, pilgrim! Issue No. 9 features a far-out fantasy titled, "The Demon Creatures of Dr. Synnel!" and if there's one thing you can be sure about, it's that this story is NOT about housecats or goldfish or even a well-heeled dog. No sirree! In fact, if anything, that flashy title is an awesome understatement! Be prepared for pulsepounding action and hellish horror, Captain Britain boosters, and all in full-colour! Of course, we don't need to remind you that this weekly also features the Fantastic Four—who are boggled by the Overmind this time around—and that cigar-smokin' stalwart of **SHIELD**, Nick Fury—who becomes enmeshed in the spider-web plot of the sneakiest villain since Fu Manchu, namely the Yellow Claw! And just to tickle yer fancy, folks, we've thrown in an extra added treat—an uncanny Inhumans pin-up! So boogie on down to your local news dealer and grab a copy (politely, of course) before they're all sold out!

ITEM! And before you can even ask us what's goin' on in that magnificent mag known as the **MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL** No. 219, we're gonna beat ya to it by tellin' ya! How's that for bein' on the ball? This isotopic issue boasts the calamitous conclusion of the Hulk story you've been following so avidly in recent weeks. The title? "Triumph of the Toad Men!" That sounds ominous, don't it? As for that sword-slingin' favourite of the barbarian set, Conan the steely-eyed Cimmerian looks better than even in action, inked as he is by the wizard of the inkpot, Tom Palmer! And Luke Cage, also known as the pulse pounding Hero For Hire, plows his way into plentiful danger in a dynamic dossier that has to be experienced to be believed! Take it from us, Marvelite—this is the one you've been waiting for (since last week, anyway)!

ITEM! As for the simian storyteller's delight, **PLANET OF THE APES** No. 112, we've got a lollapalooza of nifty news for ya to think over! Not only does the sensational adaptation of the second apes movie begin (again), but we've got an announcement that you should pay extra-special attention to, since starting next week the barbaric battle adventures of Conan the Cimmerian will be appearing in these selfsame pages (transferring from **MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL**). So don't say we didn't way you—and most of all, be sure not to miss a single story about the most savage hero the side of Peter Lemongello! Don't miss **PLANET OF THE APES** No. 113!



ITEM! That leaves the titanic 200th anniversary issue of **SUPER SPIDER-MAN AND THE TITANS** to talk about, and this is certainly a Marvel milestone that you won't want to go without! Imagine Thor, Spidey, Captain America, the Invaders, the Avengers and Iron Man all in one magnificent magazine! Imagine glory, splendour, action and adventure as only mighty Marvel can do it! Imagine yet another weekly issue of **SPIDER-MAN**! Seriously, folks, this is a treat that you just gotta read—and as a stunning extra, we've included a special Spidey centrespread pencilled by John Romita, Jr. (I) and inked by good ol' Fluffy Duffy Vohland. This one'll leave ya gaspin' for more, we guarantee it. And we also guarantee it's gonna sell fast, so be sure you get your copy! That's all for this week, wondrous ones! See you anon!



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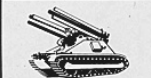
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Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE FANTASTIC FOUR!**™

THE F.F. KNOW THAT MANKIND IS **DOOMED** IF THE ALIEN CAN'T BE **BEATEN!**

BUT WHO SHALL STOP THE OVER-MIND?

BECAUSE OF THE DAMAGE DONE TO NEW YORK CITY DURING THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE **THING** AND THE **FANTASTIC FOUR** **HULK**, THE **FANTASTIC FOUR** MUST SOON STAND TRIAL IN A MUNICIPAL COURT OF LAW! WE JOIN THEM NOW AS THE ANGRY QUARTET POST THE BAIL REQUIRED FOR THEIR FREEDOM...

(AND THIS IS JUST BETWEEN US, 'CAUSE THE F.F. DON'T KNOW!) NONE OF OUR HEROES SUSPECT THE REASON FOR THEIR STIFF PENALTY! AS WE SAW LAST ISH, A STRANGELY POWERFUL ALIEN, CALLED THE **OVER-MIND**, HAD TEMPORARILY TAKEN CONTROL OF THE MAYOR'S BRAIN, CAUSING HIM TO ACCUSE THE F.F. OF BEING DANGEROUS LAWBREAKERS! AND NOW, ON WITH OUR FAR-OUT FABLE...

MARVEL
MAKES IT
AGAIN!

HOW? HOW CAN THEY BOOK US THIS WAY? AS THOUGH WE'RE COMMON CRIMINALS?

DON'T WORRY, SIS! WE'LL FIND A WAY TO CLEAR OURSELVES

TWENTY THOUSAND CLAMS! I DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD THAT MUCH

YOU BEEN HOLDIN' OUT ON US, STRETCHO?

IT'S FROM MY PERSONAL SAVINGS, BEN! IT'S MONEY I'VE BEEN PAID FOR SOME OF MY INVENTIONS

OKAY! OKAY! FORK IT OVER 'N LET'S GIT OUTTA HERE

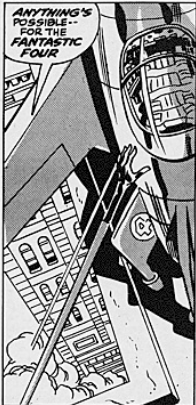
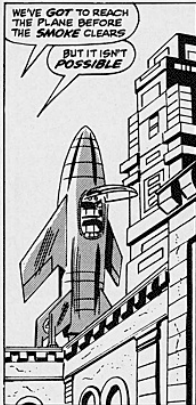
I'LL GIVE YOU A RECEIPT FOR THAT, MR. RICHARDS

WRITTEN, ILLUSTRATED AND HASSLED-OVER BY:
STAN LEE and JOHN BUSCEMA

EMBELLISHED BY
FRANK GIACIOIA
AND HIS MAGIC BRUSH

LETTERED BY
SAM ROSEN
AND HIS SCRATCHY PEN









SOMETHING IN THE SKY HAS AROUSED THEIR PRIMITIVE INTEREST

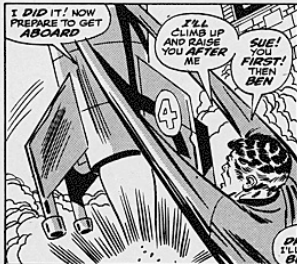


A PAIR OF HUMAN ARMS-- STRETCHING TO THAT AIR-CRAFT



I WAS NOT AWARE THEY HAD SUCH POWER

I MUST LEARN MORE



I DID IT! NOW PREPARE TO GET ABOARD

I'LL CLIMB UP AND RAISE YOU AFTER ME

SUE! YOU FIRST! THEN BEN



DON'T WORRY, REED! I'LL HOLD THEM BACK FOR YOU

GRAB MY ARMS, BEN-- BEFORE THE CROWD SURROUNDS US AGAIN

IF YA DROP ME, I'LL CLOB-BER YA!



HEY! WHAT GIVES?

WHO'S THE CLOWN WIT' THE KING-SIZE MITT?

THOMP!



STAND ASIDE, HUMAN... IF SUCH YOU ARE...

I WISH TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ONE WHOSE LIMBS CAN STRETCH

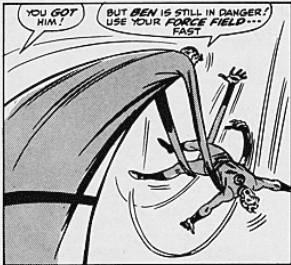
AND THIS SHIP! I HAVE NEVER SEEN ITS LIKE

IT INTERESTS THE OVER-MIND

BIG DEAL! I'M ALL SHOOK UP









THERE IS NO NEED TO
CONTINUE THIS
USELESS GAME



I HAVE *LEARNED*
ALL THAT I DESIRE!
YOUR POWERS ARE
NO THREAT TO ME



THUS, I REVERT
TO MY SEEMINGLY
HUMAN GARB



BUT, BEFORE I
DEPART, THERE
IS ONE THING
MORE--



I ERASE THIS MEMORY FROM
YOUR UNSUSPECTING BRAINS

YOU WILL FORGET
ALL THAT HAS
OCCURRED

HEY!
WHAT
GIVES?

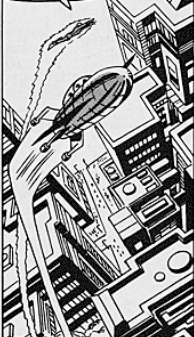
YOU
MUST HAVE
STUMBLED,
JOHNNY

I KINDA FEEL AS IF I *FERGOT*
SOMETHIN'

LET'S NOT FORGET
TO GET *OUT* OF
HERE BEFORE THE
CROWD RETURNS

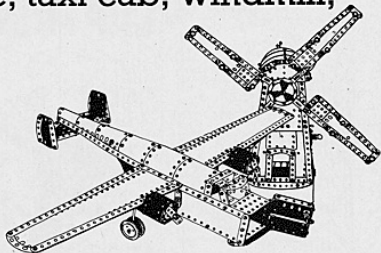
LET'S
GO! I'LL
FLY AFTER
THE SHIP

LAST ONE BACK
IS *DR. DOOM*



-NEXT WEEK-
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ADDRESS

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Dear Neil, Chris, Herb and Fred,

My first knowledge of Captain Britain was around three weeks ago, as I read through the trade papers for newagents. My thoughts, at first, were sceptical. After all, look at British-drawn splash-pages. Not exactly awe-inspiring, eh?

But now the happy event is only a week away, and I've changed my tune somewhat. I see it all now! CB is a return to the 'fun' days of Marvel, as so often stated by Mike Mittelstadt. After all, how can you take being tied to Concorde's air intake seriously. And being put there by a frustrated weatherman?

I can think of no-one better for CB than Messrs. Claremont and Trimpe. The publicity picture has been fantastic! What the hell is that quarter-staff thing? Herb's cover work for Planet of the Apes, while not earth-shattering, is good enough for this jaded Marvelite.

Clare Claremont's writing on recent X-Men stories has been the best writing I've seen in my on-high fifteen years. It was about time Jean was evolved into a more exciting character.

And the really big news! CB is in glorious colour! And about time! It'll be well worth the extra penny. In fact, the only bad thing about CB will be the FF and Nick. I'll be sorry to see them go from the Titans, but their replacements are even better!

Captain Britain hits the newstands in exactly one week, so I'll let you know my feelings then.

Martin Shipp,
480 White Hart Lane
Tottenham, London N17.

By the time all this appears in print, Captain Britain will have made his debut. Throughout the length and breadth of the Kingdom, Marvelites will have read, digested, re-read, examined, discussed, analysed and carried out all the other exercises that the devoted give (natch!) to a new mag. But right at this moment, as we tap out these words, it's like the night before Christmas—all the excitement lies in the immediate future, and the tension mounts by the hour. In one short week from now we'll have Marveldom's reaction to CB—and as soon as we have that reaction we'll be publishing it.

Dear Bullpen.

Well, at long last it's here—Britain's very own super-hero. Was he worth the wait? He seems exciting enough, but you'll need more than that to succeed. What chances has he of success? Let us see: Basically he is all right—semi-mystical background, science student (sounds familiar, doesn't it, Mr Parker?) and an interesting cast of supporting characters. It all sounds very promising.

But! Was Herb the right choice for artist? If this is the best he can do I think Mr. B. Braddock says say goodbye right now. Really, Herb, your art was far too stiff, let's see some fluidity. Oh, and why did the name have to be so corny? But these are minor moans, on the good points.

I'm delighted with the choice of Chris as writer. With him at the helm anything can happen. Secondly, I'm glad the strip is in

Tell it to The CAPTAIN!



colour, it has so much more impact. It's a pity about the non-gloss cover, but I suppose it keeps the price down. The back features have been chosen well, they're both popular and will look better in full size.

Finally, if Capt. Britain is handled well, it will be a terrific smash. Give him plenty of 'realistic' characterisation and as many complex storylines as possible. You've got a winner—HANDLE WITH CARE!

Martin Tudor,
845 Alum Rock Road,
Ward End, B'ham.

Whew! For a moment there you had us worried! Yep—from the tone of your opening para we thought you were gonna tear us apart. But your criticism boiled down to a disapproval of Herb Trimpe's art and a dislike of the name 'Captain Britain'. Well, we have to state that from most corners of Marveldom Herbie has been gathering kudos for his work on the new mag. And as for the name 'Captain Britain'—howabout giving it a little time to wear in?

Dear Chris, Herb, Larry, Irv and Marie,

At last Marvel has done the three things I wanted most. 1. Brought back colour. 2. A new Non-landscape comic. 3. Innovated a new hero with new stories.

The hero's name "Captain Britain" is, as B. Braddock says, "Right", and grows on you. His costume is good and patriotic enough to go with the name. As for his staff,

well, shades of Captain A's shield. (Personally I think the staff is a much more versatile weapon than the shield, and I'm dying to know what the four buttons are for.)

The FF and Nick Fury stories set off all kinds of comparisons between CB and American stories. Up to now CB holds his own against most American heroes on charisma alone.

I hope you keep making new villains like Reaver for CB, but do use a few tried and tested USA villains.

Roy Burston, RFO, KOF, TTB
26 Bracadale Court, Darnhill Est.,
Heywood, Lanes.

There's no doubt about it, Captain Britain may not have been with us for very long, but already he's winning friends all over the UK! Dare we say that the signs are that he's got a great future ahead of him?

Dear Fantastic Marvel,

When you said "The Biggest, Greatest thing since Marvel ish 1" you really meant it. Well, I just could not believe my eyes, 10p's worth of magic, just magic. And if there's anyone out there who missed it, all I can say is "CARRREEELESSSS." Three features, two in colour, one in Black and White (Fantastic Four) Captain Britain and Nick Fury in colour. I only wish it was the Fab Four in colour instead of Nick Fury. I have one wish, though. Please give Captain Britain a shiny cover, even if it costs a bomb—your new comic needs a shiny cover. And if possible, make it a landscape comic.

And now you've got a British super-hero, why not have a British super-group, maybe The British Squadron of Power.

Richard Thomas,
Ashridge, 6 Broughton Rd,
Aldington, Cheshire.

When we had Captain Britain in the planning stage, we went into the whys and wherefores of colour printing and glossy covers so closely that we nearly ended up wearing dark glasses for life. And there were two main reasons why we couldn't have both. One was that we couldn't get a print set-up that could give us both at the right price. And the second was that if we'd gone ahead, ignored every other consideration and had colour pages PLUS a glossy cover, then the cover price would have been too high to even mention. So-o-o-o, until we find a colour printer who works purely for the love of Marvel, the mag has to stay the way it is. Can you bear it?

Dear Marvel,

Congratulations on "Captain Britain". I personally think it is the best mag out. 1) Because it has colour. 2) A British hero. And 3) It has old-style covers. Yes, I prefer the old-style covers.

I can see the cutbacks you had to employ, though. 1) Old-style covers (even though I do prefer them). 2) Fewer pages and 3) low-quality paper.

The story wasn't bad for a first issue, but Herb Trimpe's art wasn't up to standard.

Stephen Carter,
4 Linsey Close, Longdon Park
Estate,
Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Okay—you've given us the old One, Two, Three. It wasn't all that bad at all!

Dear Chris, Herb, Fred and Marie,

Brilliant, that's all I can say. Herb's art was at its best again, in fact I have never seen him draw so well.

As for Chris Claremont's script, well it easily matches up to his tremendous X-Men scripts. Starting in the middle of the story really worked well, it gave the story a certain something, and was very original for an origin story.

In fact, the only thing wrong with the whole issue was the lack of a shiny cover, but as long as we have got colour, who cares!

Now that we have our own British superhero, I hope he will not die! I also hope that you will put him in the Marvel Universe. Have him meet other Marvel super-heroes.

Scott Manning, RFO, KOF,
25 Exeter House, Putney Heath,
London SW15.

Your assessment that Herbie's art was his best ever could well be correct. Because everyone involved in the launch of CB was pulling out all the stops, and then some! And that point you mentioned about the lack of a shiny cover has been brought up by other Marvelites, so an explanation is due. It was this way. We wanted some colour INSIDE the mag, but we had to find a printer who could handle it for us without costs hitting the roof and the cover price going the same way. We found the right bargain, but the printing presses involved couldn't produce a shiny cover. It was a choice between a glossy cover or inside colour, and the Bullpen vote went for the latter.

Dear Marvel,

Captain Britain has at last been unleashed! The first issue was excellent, but the gift in it wasn't all that good. Why not a poster or a transfer or something, instead of a corny mask?!

The fault was countered, however, with the colour. Faan-tastic! Colour is one aspect of the comics media which is grossly underestimated. Marie Severin is a superb colourist and improves Herb's pencils a hundred per cent. Also, the STERANKO work looks even better in colour.

Wow! Chris Claremont's scripting was great! All in all, this was a very good first

attempt, well worth my 10p. The Larry Lieber art on the cover was good too—he's a kinda cross between J. Buscema and J. Kirby. Oh, and I really dig that crazy costume!

Phillip Greenaway,
38 9th Avenue, Galon Uchaf,
Merthyr Tydfil, Mid-Glam.,
S. Wales.

A cross between Jack Kirby and John Buscema? That can't be bad! We doubt if Larrupin' Larry is ever gonna file a complaint about a description like that!

Dear Sirs,

For the first time since Marvel appeared in Britain we British can have our say and stand a fair chance of what we ask for happening. I realise that thousands of other people will be writing to you about Captain Britain, and all with different ideas of what you should do. I also realise that my letter will be just one vote for a certain storyline among many others. But however, here are my ideas.

Firstly, please don't base all your British Superheroes in London. Captain Britain should meet up with the Black Knight and then, possibly through him, The Avengers. He could also team-up with Shang-Chi while he is in Britain. My next suggestion will probably be very popular. Let Captain America meet Captain Britain, and perhaps you could write a two-part story of which one part could be in Captain America's comic. Bring back Union Jack, only this one could be the grandson (or granddaughter) of the one currently starring in The Invaders. You now have an excuse for bringing more new British superheroes into the world. Inspired by Captain Britain, Shang-Chi and the Black Knight, they could see that they are not the

only ones with strange powers.

Now that you have given us colour in one comic, perhaps because you think it won't sell well without it, and the Fantastic Four as back-up, you can give us colour in the others, for only one penny increase in cost.

I now move onto Captain Britain's cane. This should not be like Daredevil's cane or Thor's hammer. My idea for it is for it to be made of unstable molecules and for it to be able to change shape. I suggest that it might change into a weapon by pushing any of the four buttons on the handle. These weapons might be a boomerang, an axe and a sword. For the fourth button this could make a shield appear. To change back to the cane again, all he needs to do is press the same button again and the molecules would reverse themselves.

Finally, I have always envied you at Marvel for being able to create characters and then write about them for all to read. I also write about characters which I think are almost as good as yours. One of these is called Zaccarius Claypole and is a detective of police. I would be most pleased if you could mention him in one of your stories.

John Lamero,
4 Balfour Road, Birkenhead,
Merseyside.

Much as we appreciate your suggestions (and we've gotta congratulate you on their ingenuity) it's all too late. For Cap Britain is HERE. He's the way he is for Marvelwood to take or leave. And we confidently hope that Marvelwood's gonna take him—right to their hearts! Any time now we're gonna know—and the suspense is excruciating!

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WONDERFUL
WORLD OF
AMAZING LIVE

(AS SEEN ON TV NATIONWIDE)

(ARTEMIA SALINA)
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ADDRESS _____

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Stan Lee presents

**CAPTAIN
BRITAIN'S**

FUN PAGE

by OWEN MCCARRON

HAVE YOU CHECKED
YOUR SHADOW
RECENTLY?



**LAST WEEK'S
ANSWERS:**

1. SPIDER-MAN
2. DAREDEVIL
3. MAN-THING
4. CAPTAIN BRITAIN
5. CAPTAIN AMERICA
6. THE THING
7. IRON MAN
8. DOCTOR STRANGE
9. THOR
10. HUMAN TORCH
11. THE HULK
12. SHANG-CHI
13. SUBMARINER
14. WARLOCK

1.	N	I	C	K
2.	H	I	C	K
3.	H	U	C	K
4.	H	U	L	K

CAPTAIN AMERICA FIND-A-WORD

HOW MANY WORDS CAN
YOU FIND IN:

AMERICA?

3-LETTERS

4-LETTERS

5-LETTERS

6-LETTERS

**GUEST
STAR!**



NEXT
WEEK:
A LION IN
WINTER?

ANSWERS NEXT
WEEK!

**THE F.F.'S INCREDIBLE ALLIES:
THE UNCANNY INHUMANS!**

BLACK BOLT!

SILENT, SUPER-POWERED SOVEREIGN OF THE GREAT
REFUGE--AND BELOVED OF MEDUSA!

ON YOUR
LEFT:

KARNAK
THE
SHATTERER!

--AND THE
EXQUISITE ELEMENTAL
CALLED

CRYSTAL!

AND, ON YOUR RIGHT:

TRITON!

MOST AMAZING AMPHIBIAN
THIS SIDE OF THE
SUB-MARINER!
AND--

GORGON--

HE WHOSE THUNDEROUS TREAD
CAN SHAKE A WORLD!



"AND THE DRAGON CRIED... DEATH!"

REMEMBER LAST ISH? IF NOT, THIS SHOULD HELP JOG YOUR MEMORY, TIGER! NO TIME FOR RECAPS NOW... JUST DIG THE 3-D MULTI-LENS-STEREO-REFRACTOR SYSTEM, AND HANG ON... IT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING!

OBSERVE, VOLTSMANN! THE SHIELD DOG'S FATE IS SEALED! THE MONSTER CEPHALOPOD IN THE CAVERN BELOW US HAS FOUND HIS QUARRY!

JA! HERR CLAW! THE FOOL BLUNDERED INTO YOUR TRAP EXACTLY AS YOU PLANNED! NOW, THERE CAN BE NO ESCAPE!

ENOUGH! I AM NO LONGER AMUSED! PRESSING MATTERS AWAIT OUR RETURN! YOU SEE... THE YELLOW CLAW HAS A NEW UNDERTAKING THIS VERY NIGHT!

...AND SO, THAT ALL WILL KNOW WHO TOLD THIS NEVER-TO-BE-FORGOTTEN EPIC, WE PROUDLY PRESENT THE CREDITS...

STAN LEE
EDITOR

JIM STERANKO
WRITER/ILLUSTRATOR

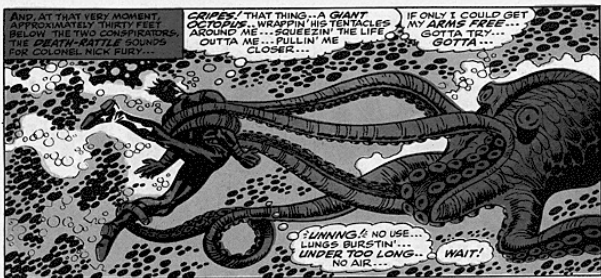
FRANK GACIOIA
INKER

SAM ROSEN
LETTERER

AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT,
APPROXIMATELY THIRTY FEET
BELOW THE TWO CONSPIRATORS,
THE DEATH-RATTLE SOUNDS
FOR COLONEL NICK FURY...

CRIPES! THAT THING...A GIANT
OCTOPUS...WRAPPIN' HIS TENTACLES
AROUND ME...SQUEEZIN' THE LIFE
OUTTA ME...PULLIN' ME
CLOSER...

IF ONLY I COULD GET
MY ARMS FREE...
GOTTA TRY...
GOTTA...



...LINING... NO USE...
LUNGS BURSTIN'...
UNDER TOO LONG...
NO AIR...

WAIT!

OXYGEN TABLET...
OXYGEN TABLET...
QUICK!



IT'S DISSOLVIN' IN
THE WATER...HOPE
THERE'S ENOUGH
LEFT FOR ME!



COUPL'A MORE
SECONDS BOUGHT...
GOTTA REACH
FOLDIN' BAYONET
...IN MY BOOT-!



GOT IT...
BUT...BUT
CAN IT
WORK?...
...CAN
IT?



I'LL BE WASTED IN ANOTHER SECOND...
MUST STRIKE NOW...BUT WHERE...
WHERE...? BETWEEN THE EYES...
WON'T GET ANOTHER CHANCE...

THIS'S GOTTA
DO IT!



UGGGHH! HE LOOSEMED UP...
GOTTA GET AWAY... FROM
THEM BLASTED ARMS
BEFORE THEY GRAB ME
AGAIN...

NEED AIR NOW...
CAN'T WAIT!



GOTTA REACH...
WINDOW...RIG UP
THESE BELTS...
TO SUPPORT ME...

CAN'T BUDGE 'EM...BUT
MY MINI-SCREW-JACK
WILL--I HOPE!



I MEAN, I COULD CREAM
THE WHOLE JOINT WITH
THIS SONIC SHATTER
CONE!

OR SHOULD I JUST CUT OUTTA HERE AN'
LET THEM THINK THEIR LITTLE PLAYMATE
FINISHED THE JOB? MAYBE THAT'LL GIVE
ME SOME KINDA EDGE WHEN I COME
BACK!



C'MON...GET IT
THROUGH, FURY!

GUESS I CAN
GET BACK TA SHIELD
HQ THROUGH THE SEWERS...
BUT SHOULD I GO WITH-
OUT LEAVIN' MY CALLIN' CARD?

COURSE, THAT THING
IS STILL DOWN THERE!
NUTS!! LET THE PLACE
VIBRATE APART!

MEANWHILE, THE INSCRUTABLE ORIENTAL MASTERMIND HAS ARRIVED AT HIS HIDDEN **UNDERGROUND SANCTUM**, A VAST **CATACOMB** OF STEEL AND GLASS, A COMPLEX INNER DOMINION LOCATED IN THE VERY HEART OF NEW YORK CITY ITSELF! HERE, IN THIS INCREDIBLE MULTIPLICITY, THE **YELLOW CLAW SETS INTO MOTION** ANOTHER **DIABOLICAL SCHEME OF DESTRUCTION AND DEATH!**

LOOK, VOLTSMANN... ON THE **ID-RECEPTOR** OF THE **PSIONIC-REVELATION SAVESDROPPER**, IT APPEARS THAT WE ARE NOT **UNIQUE** IN OUR ATTEMPT TO **HARNESS** THE **CIVILIZED WORLD!**

OBSERVE THEN, THE MEN OF **A.I.M.**, WHO EVEN NOW TALK OF A NEW **ULTRA WEAPON** BEING BUILT TO ATTAIN THEIR **FINAL ENDS!**

IF IT BE ALL THESE FOOLS CLAIM, THEN I MUST SECURE IT FOR MY OWN **PURPOSES!**

FOR ONLY IN THE HANDS OF THE **YELLOW CLAW** COULD SUCH A DEVICE BE USED TO BRING THE **WORLD TO ITS KNEES!**

EXCELLENT, **HERR CUNNING** BRAIN COULD REDUCE **ZE POWER** OF **A.I.M.** TO **ZAT** OF A **MEERE PAWN!**

ZE TIME HAS COME TO **ASSERT FORCE** AND **GAIN NEW VICTORY** FOR YOUR **UNRELENTING CAUSE!**

LET US **LISTEN NOW** AND **DEVISE A PLOY** TO **SEIZE ZE WEAPON!**

SO, VOLTSMANN... THEIR **PROJECT** IS NOW REVEALED TO ME! IT HAS, HOWEVER, **MANY SUBTLE INTRICACIES**, WHICH WILL BE DIFFICULT TO CIRCUMVENT WITHOUT REVEALING THE PRESENCE OF THE **YELLOW CLAW!**

YET, AN **INGENIOUS TWIST** BEGINS TO MATERIALIZE IN THE **THOUGHTS** OF MY **MATCHLESS MIND!** PERHAPS THE HEADS OF SEVERAL COULD FALL WITH BUT A **SINGLE STROKE!**

ZEN YOU ALREADY HAVF DEVISD A **COUNTER-PLAN** TO NULLIFY THE **PRECAUTIONS A.I.M.** HAS TAKEN!

THAT AND PERHAPS EVEN MORE... **MUCH MORE!**

MOMENTS LATER...

AAIIIEE! AGAIN MY HEART GROWS **HEAVY WITH GUILT** FOR I MUST WITNESS MORE OF MY **UNCLE'S** **MALEVOLENT DESIGNS!**

CAN HE NOT **REALIZE** THERE MUST COME AN **HOUR OF RECKONING... OF ATONEMENT?**

YET, CAN I **BLAME HIM?** IS IT NOT **HIS WAY**, JUST AS IT BE THE **NATURE OF THE SCORPION** TO **STING?**

BUT BY THE SAME **TOKEN**, SO MUST **SUWAN** OBEY HER **OWN CONSCIENCE**, THAT WHICH DWELLS IN HER **OWN HUMBLE BODY!**

EVEN IF I MUST FACE THE **WRATH** OF MY **CELESTIAL UNCLE**, I MUST CONTACT HIS **SWORN ANTAGONIST**, **JIMMY WOOD--MY ONLY HOPE** TO **SAVE INNOCENT LIVES!**

AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN ANOTHER SECTION OF MANHATTAN, THE INDESTRUCTIBLE AGENT OF SHIELD HAS RETURNED TO HIS BASE OF OPERATIONS TO PREPARE FOR A COUNTERATTACK AGAINST ANY NEW, UNEXPECTED TRUST OF TREACHERY... NEVER FOR A MOMENT SUSPECTING HOW SOON HE WILL AGAIN BE LOCKED IN MORTAL COMBAT WITH THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY MASTER KILLER HE HAS EVER ENCOUNTERED... THE YELLOW CLAW!

WELCOME BACK, COLONEL! I EXPECTED THE WORST WHEN I TRACKED YOUR FERRARI BY ITS MORNING SIGNAL AND FOUND YOU WERE MISSING!

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU HAVE NINE LIVES, EVEN WHERE THE YELLOW CLAW IS CONCERNED!

BETTER BELIEVE IT! BUT HE PLAYS PLENTY ROUGH! OCTOPUS-RASSLIN' AIN'T NEVER GONNA REPLACE SHOOTIN' MARBLES... YA SEE, THE STAKES ARE HIGH AN' WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HE'S AFTER!

CAN'T MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE ANYWAY! WHATEVER IT IS, WE'VE GOT TO PUT THE KIBOSH ON HIM... OR ELSE!

COLONEL FURY... DOUBLE-A PRIORITY CALL COMING IN FROM F.B.I. AGENT JAMES WOO!

SWITCH HIM ON THE SCREEN, SOLDIER!

FURY! HANG ON, BUDDY! THIS IS A BIG ONE! I JUST RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM SUWAN, THE CLAWS' NIECE! SHE SAYS SHE'S ABOUT TO GRAB A SUPER-WEAPON DEVELOPED BY A.I.M., CALLED THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR! THAT MAKES IT YOUR BABY! YOU'VE GOT TO INTERCEPT IT! HERE'S THE DETAILS...

SCANT MOMENTS LATER...

YOU CAN'T TACKLE A.I.M. BY YOURSELF, COLONEL! YOU'LL NEED SOMEONE TO BACK YOU UP!

YOU'RE RIGHT, COUNTLESS! I SURE COULD USE GABE JONES OR GUM DUM DUGAN NOW!

BUT THERE'S ANOTHER WHO WENT THROUGH UNIT'S SPI SCHOOL WITH ME! I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF CALLING HIM HERE!

YEAH! WHO?

HI! CLAY QUARTERMAIN AT YOUR SERVICE! BEEN LOOKIN' FORWARD TO A LITTLE ACTION! NOW THAT IT'S HERE, I KNOW IT'LL BE A REAL PLEASURE FIGHTIN' SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH YOU, COLONEL FURY!

LET ME REASSURE YOU ABOUT ANY DOUBT YOU MAY HAVE! I'VE HANDLED EVERY JOB FROM BODY-GUARD TO BIG GAME HUNTER! THE TOUGHER IT IS, THE MORE I LIKE IT! ANYTIME, ANY PLACE, ANY WEAPONS! YOU SEE, IN MY HEART OF HEARTS, I FANCY DANGER IN A RATHER UNCOMMON WAY!

IS THIS A CONVERSATION OR A MONOLOG?

OK, MISTER! YOU CAN COME ALONG, JUST 'CAUSE I'M CURIOUS TA KNOW IF YA GRAPPLE AS WELL AS YA TALK! I'LL BRIEF YA ON THE WAY!

HE MAY BEND YOUR EAR, COLONEL, BUT IT'LL BE WORTH IT...

YOU'LL SEE!

THANKS, SWEET-HEART! BE BACK IN A SEC, COLONEL! GOTTA GET MY GEAR!

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, COUNTLESS... YA BEEN A BIG HELP TO ME!

IT'S MY JOB, COLONEL! BUT YOU CAN DO ME A FAVOUR... CALL ME VAL... OKAY?

OKAY, VAL! KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS 'TIL I GET BACK! AN' KEEP YER FINGERS CROSSED!

NOT FAR AWAY
FROM CHINATOWN,
THE NOW-DESERTED
WATERFRONT DIS-
TRICT SPRAWLS
BENEATH AN OMINOUS
FOG-THROUDED SKY...
AND THROUGH ITS
EVER-SHIFTING
SHADOWS, LURK-
ING EVIL MOVES
ABOUT FURTIVELY,
AND THE HEAVY
SILENCE IS BROKEN
BY ECHOING
FOOTSTEPS...



...AND AS THE SINISTER DRAMA UNFOLDS,
STILL ANOTHER OF ITS MANY PLAYERS
MAKES HIS ENTRANCE... ONE THAT IS UN-
EXPECTED AND STARTLING--AND LADEN
WITH THE PROMISE OF SUDDEN DEATH...



FOR THE DURATION OF
DECEMBER
MARVEL
GOES

**COMPETITION
CRAZY**

YUP, IN A MOMENT OF MADNESS
YOUR MARVEL MAINMEN HAVE DECIDED
TO GIVE YA ALL THE CHANCE TO WIN
HEAPS OF PRIZES IN NOT ONE, BUT TWO GREAT
COMPETITIONS!

THE FUN STARTS NEXT
WEEK IN ALL OUR RIDICULOUSLY
POPULAR MAGS...

**DON'T
MISS
'EM!**

